

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear School Families,

GPS in Lent: As we travel through these 40 days of prayer and evaluation of our lives, we keep our eyes on the mysteries of the death and resurrection of Jesus. The “desert” experience of the people of God in Exodus of the Old Testament and the “desert” experience of Jesus before his Baptism and public ministry speak to us of our need to take a distance from the thick of our lives and see ourselves a bit more clearly and rearrange our course of life. The Spirit of God will guide us as a GPS system charts the right path for us when we stray into the wrong path. We keep going astray despite, at times, our good intentions and earnest attempts. We depend on God to live a life of grace. May the Spirit of Christ be our spiritual GPS, bringing us back to the path toward the Crucifixion and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Archbishop's Annual Appeal: Our donation to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal is part of our Lenten observances of giving and sharing. Thanks to your spirit of generosity and self-sacrifice, we are moving steadily toward our goal. As a way of thanking you, I have included the donors' names in the parish bulletin and school newsletter. I encourage those who are still considering this offering to pray over our support for the church of San Francisco Archdiocese. We help and strengthen our Archbishop's ministries because we are the Archdiocese! Every little bit we can do toward this appeal is much appreciated.

Luck of the Irish Dinner: As you know, it was a big success this year, though I missed it because of the LA Religious Ed. Congress I was attending that day. I would like to thank all the parents of the 6th Grade of St. Veronica Catholic School. My special thanks are due to: Colleen McCarthy, Maricel Rodriguez, Maria Palacio, Lucy Grubbs, Mike McDermott, Gabe Gonzalez, Suzette Lunsford, and Teresa Sequeira. Many thanks to the following who gave support and/or donations toward this event: School House Deli, Costco, Pape's Meat Co, Basque Cultural Center, Royal Pin Donuts, and Gonzalez, Rodriguez, Cooney and Pereira Families.

Sacraments: As you know, this is a season of new Sacraments for our youngsters. On February 13th, 67 young men and women of our parish made Confirmation. From our School, 36 children made the First Reconciliation on February 05th and First Communion of March 05th. From the Faith Formation program (old name, CCD!), 45 children made the First Reconciliation on March 12th and they will make their First Communion on May 07th. While we keep them all in our prayers, we view these new sacraments as a reminder---and a means---of renewed interest for us in matters of faith. May these youngsters help and support us in our relationship with God as we help and inspire them in their relationship with God. In other words, we need each other for everything, including the spiritual matters. That's why we Catholics are always a community, the Body of Christ.

Your Friend and Pastor, Father Charles Puthota